

MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN

DEVOTED TO AGRICULTURE
AND THE FARMER'S INTERESTS

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Millions for Irrigation.

Thirty-seven million dollars for irrigation. This amount is the estimated figure of the appropriation for irrigation work which will be available in the fiscal year of 1905, the sum realized from the sale of Western public lands since the year of the passage of the irrigation law, an estimated total, 1901 to 1905, inclusive, amounting to \$37,028,871.30.

This fund is, according to the law, to be invested by the Secretary of the Interior in feasible irrigation projects which will repay the amount to the government in ten annual installments from the settlers.

The apportionment of the fund by Secretary Hitchcock has been practically completed and the plans matured for expending the entire fund on certain definite projects in the West, which practically brings to an end further surveys and examinations and permits the concentration of effort of the Reclamation Service on the building of a few important projects.

DEPARTMENT'S WIDE AUTHORITY.

The irrigation act gives the Secretary of the Interior a very wide latitude in the investment of this large fund, although he is required to spend the major portion of the fund arising from the sale of public lands within each State or Territory, for the benefit of their lands, as far as practicable.

It is a recognized fact that the contributions to the fund from the various States are in most cases not in proportion to the need of those States for irrigation. Arizona and Nevada, for instance, whose lands have contributed very little to the fund, have probably the greatest need and opportunity for reclamation, while, on the other hand, North Dakota and Oklahoma, though large contributors, have perhaps the least actual need for irrigation of any of the Western States. In some cases the chief aim of politicians has been apparently not so much to develop irrigation as to secure the expenditure of federal funds in the section they represent.

HAS THE KNEMTY OF LAND GRABBERS.

The exercise of such impartial judgment as Secretary Hitchcock has displayed has of course given rise to more or less adverse criticism and attack, especially from men who have viewed the reclamation act as a great opportunity for either direct or indirect personal advancement. The men to whom the public domain has long been considered a legitimate prey, hailed the passage of the irrigation act as an improved method of converting to their use the nation's resources in the West. Mr. Hitchcock's vigorous measures, however, have seriously interfered with their proceedings and they are correspondingly bitter in their denunciations of his acts.

The States thus far to chiefly benefit through the irrigation law are Arizona, Wyoming, Montana and Nevada, although some of them have themselves made to it considerable contributions. Wyoming, because of its strategic geographical position, and the fact that much of the water supply of the West originates in that part of the State, must of necessity have the storage reservoirs built there, not only for the benefit of Wyoming, but for Nebraska as well. The Secretary has not added \$3,200,000 for the Shoshone river, Wyoming, project and \$3,300,000 for the Pathfinder project on North Platte river, to be partially expended for the benefit of Nebraska. Thus about fifteen per cent. of the entire reclamation fund will be expended in Wyoming, although she has contributed only about four per cent. of the fund. Scarcely along the Platte and the Shoshone canyons are among the wildest and most picturesque in America.

Food Preservatives.

The health of a nation is most certainly of great importance, and it should be the duty of the Government to guard the nation's health intently, and to be on the alert at all times to prevent articles of food being introduced that have deleterious substances used to preserve them. There is no question about fresh articles of food being preferable in all ways to preserved foods. Under existing circumstances, however, it is impossible to feed the nation with fresh food, so it is absolutely essential that some method of preservation be resorted to.

All articles of food will sour, mold, become rancid or putrid under certain climatic conditions. If such conditions could not be prevented, the cost of living would be far more expensive. Preservation would then be necessary. The question then arises, "What are the best methods of preserving food stuffs?"

In Colorado, New Mexico and Arizona fresh meat can be preserved by drying it in

the wind and sun. Such methods, however, could be used in a tropical climate, or even in the Northern, Middle or Southern States. Refrigeration is used very extensively, but it is not always available. Sugar, salt, vinegar, spices, alcohol, smoke and salt-petre are recognized as lawful preservatives. All of the above-mentioned articles except alcohol will penetrate food, thus destroying the nutriment to a certain extent.

Submerge an article of food in alcohol and it will remain in a fair condition indefinitely. Alcohol is rather expensive, however, for general preservative purposes, and imagine the outcry temperance people would raise if alcohol were used extensively.

Dr. Wiley surmises that borax and borio acid are deleterious substances. In spite of Dr. Wiley's deductions, chemists who have world-wide reputations, who have made comprehensive researches, who have studied the question of boron preservation more thoroughly than Dr. Wiley has, claim borax and borio acid are the mildest preservatives extant.

If borax and borio acid are injurious, as Dr. Wiley's reports indicate, why are not the English nation a nation of imbeciles—puny, weak and senile? England has taken of borax and borio acids for decades, and after a most thorough and complete investigation of the effects of boron preservatives, she enacted laws allowing meats, butter and cream to be preserved with boron preservatives, thus obtaining food stuffs in a clean, healthful, palatable, more digestible condition than if they were not preserved, or if preserved with salt, or any other substance that would penetrate the article preserved, so it would have to be parboiled or soaked over night to withdraw the salt, leaving the article much less nutritious and comparatively without flavor.

I sincerely trust the pure food agitation that is being conducted throughout the country will facilitate the enacting of national pure food laws, such laws compelling manufacturers and packers of food stuffs to label each and every package clearly, stating amount and kind of preservative used. Then the public will learn, as England has, the value and innocence of boron food preservatives.

New York. H. H. LANGDON.

Working up Firewood.

A cord of green wood in the log weighs more than six thousand pounds, and when a machine is used to saw it all this weight must be moved by hand power alone a great many times, and twice, at least, to considerable distances. This requires so much time, strength and energy, that, as a rule, it will be found cheaper when getting up the home supply of wood, or a few cords for market, to discard the machine entirely and let the axes cut and buck saw take its place. And not only this, but which is still more economical, to fit the wood for the stove on the spot where the tree falls. In other words, the expense of building a skidway and of getting the logs to the machine and the wood away from it often overbalances all that can be saved by the use of machinery. And this statement is rendered all the more forcible by the fact that wood never works as well when it is first cut from the stump.

At the present high price of wood it is better to use the saw as much as possible instead of the more wasteful axe; and this is especially true when cutting a tree down, since by sawing closer to the ground we can make an additional saving, the whole being equivalent to a block of wood, the full length of the tree, and two feet long. When sawing a tree down two men can always work to better advantage by using a two-handed, cross-cut saw and working together than if each used a one-man saw and worked by himself; but this is not always true when sawing a log or a tree into shorter lengths. I have found the following rule to apply very closely: If a tree is over two feet in diameter let two men work together; if between sixteen inches and two feet in diameter there is very little difference whether they work together or separately. When the tree is less than sixteen inches in diameter let the men work separately, each with a one-man saw, until the diameter is six inches, or less, if the log will remain firm; then cut it into convenient lengths and use a buck saw until it is so small that it can be cut with three blows or less with an axe. Then use an axe.

Always begin sawing a tree at the stump and before cutting off the limbs, as they will hold the trunk steady and also in most cases balance it. Continue sawing until you reach the limbs. Then take the axe and cut off a few, draw them across the body of the tree and trim them. Cut them into convenient lengths for the saw buck, or if small enough cut them with the axe into lengths to fit the stove. Do the same with all the branches and make a pile of the brush behind you, or, if you are moving it far, burn it, cut it right now and fit it for use, even to sharpening it. Apparently you will not get along as fast as you would like, but really you are doing your work in the fastest manner possible, because it will take no longer, or cost you any more, to do this work now, while you have the brush in your hands and in a convenient place, than at some future time when you must cut it, pick it up again and fit yourself a chopping block. Keep your axe all cleaned up so that as you go and you will gain time in the end. Cut the sticks intended for the buck saw into convenient lengths and throw them towards the spot where you intend to make your pile. Four feet is the commercial length for such wood, but for home use it should be cut as long as it can be handled conveniently provided it is straight enough to fit the saw-buck. If too crooked cut it in the crook until each piece is straight. It

is very poor economy to attempt to saw a log, crooked stick or a new stump.

Do not keep the log trimmed too far in advance of the saw, however, when working among the limbs, a log is liable to balance in such a way that it will rock or roll with each motion of the saw, and in such cases you will work at great disadvantage. Having saved the body of the tree, hang up the big saw and begin with the buck saw. Set the saw buck next the ends of the sticks, and as soon as you have saved all that you can conveniently reach move your buck. Do not travel a rod or more and return with a single stick if you can avoid it. But always plan your position so that every time you move a stick you will move it towards a central point which you have selected for a pile. Whenever you move it away from the pile all that labor and as much more is absolutely wasted. So plan your work and positions to save all false motions.

Begin splitting at the pile, work back away from it and throw your wood towards it as fast as split. It is here that you must use good judgment and be guided by circumstances more than at any other point. If

the stump and sections of autumn

In the contest of the big hall was the favorite position of the pumpkin, representing in all the highest members of the class. From time from any State or any part of Canada were eligible. Those of every size, shape and kind were on exhibition, many being from neighboring States. The contest was divided into two classes, the one being known as the farmers' contest, in which were included all field-grown pumpkins; the other as the roof contest, which included all roof-grown pumpkins.

The prize for the largest pumpkin, which weighed 34 pounds, consisted of eight articles of value, amounting, in the aggregate, to one hundred dollars. The prize for the smallest pumpkin, which weighed less than one-half pound, was won by a party who wished his name withheld, turning the prize, worth \$20.75, over to "Jimmie" Fishery, a crippled newboy.

In the roof contest, the rules of which stipulated that the seeds had to be planted on roof of shed, stable, porch or house in a box, barrel or trough, and the pumpkin grown on roof, the prize for the largest

to conduct their business as to have the stuff to sell. Let a manufacturer use a chance to make one hundred per cent. and how he would dig into "census and returns" to see that the "supply equaled the demand."—F. H. P., Stafford, Ct.

Success in Farming.

It is possible for a man who has intelligence enough to learn; money enough to meet the primary expenses; and physical constitution strong enough to bear the burden, to convert any kind of soil into a good producing condition. But he must know enough at the beginning to figure out the results, to know whether his venture will be a paying one or not. Or whether the outlay will not be greater than any return that he may reasonably expect from it.

A farmer can make a farm, but a farm cannot make a farmer. There is, therefore, the possibility that an intelligent man may make a successful farmer, even though he start out with a poor farm.

But a man with small intellect, without education, and without knowledge of his profession cannot farm successfully, however good a farm he may have to start with. He might raise one or two fairly good crops, but it would only be by chance if he should make a paying conversion of his crops into cash. And without intelligent cultivation the best soil will not continue to yield good crops. Of this we have probably all seen enough without needing any further proof or explanation. Independent fortunes have been made by shrewd, intelligent farmers; and fortunes have been lost on good farms by those who did not understand the business.

I believe that the intelligent, well-educated farmer may succeed against very adverse conditions of the land. But a poor farmer cannot succeed at this business. He must constantly grow poorer, and finally fail.

Success in farming, as in every other calling, depends first upon the man—his mental and his physical capacity, his education; and his wife. With these conditions to start out with, then the better the farm, the greater will be his degree of success. But he will succeed.—George McIntosh, Arcot, Co. Cork, Me.

A Suggestion for Farmer Boys.

The opportunities for young men of training and experience in agriculture grow better each year. Scarcely a week passes that we do not have calls for one or more young men who have grown up on the farm and have had some training in a college of agriculture, to take positions of trust and profit. The whole system of agriculture in this country is being revolutionized, and the men who understand the fundamental principles upon which the new agriculture is based are in constant demand.

A young man should reflect well before deciding to throw away all the valuable experience he has accumulated during his life on the farm and enter some profession where this experience will not be of special value to him. As valuable, however, as this experience is, no man should attempt to rely upon it alone in his farming operations. He should add to this experience at the very least a short course in agriculture.—H. J. Waters, Columbia, Mo.

Notes from Washington, D. C.

Representatives Albert S. Burleson of Austin, Tex., and Sydney J. Bowie of Austin, Ala., were the victims of a practical illustration of the methods adopted by the Secretary of Agriculture to prevent a leak of the cotton crop reports. They visited the Department of Agriculture last Monday to have a talk with Secretary Wilson concerning cotton, and Monday happening to be the day when the report was to be prepared, Mr. Wilson expressed delight in their visit and said he was prepared to show them exactly how the thing was done. Both stayed to see the modus operandi. They were ushered into the room where the executive force that figures out percentages and all that sort of thing was getting ready.

They saw clerks bringing in lots of unsealed packages with post marks still intact; some with batches of reports that had never been opened and still others bringing from the office safe other packages. These represented widely scattered parts of the country, and both statesmen agreed that there could hardly be collusion. After the representatives had watched the compilation of the report for a couple of hours, Burleson happened to look at his watch and found it was fast approaching eleven o'clock. They were due at the House at twelve in order to be in time for the convening of Congress. They started toward the door, turned the knob cautiously; the door was locked. After a moment's wait, it was opened a fractional part of an inch by a watchman on guard, who was told that they wanted to get out. He replied that by order of the secretary no one in the room could get out.

They said for Secretary Wilson, who explained to them that it was the rule that absolutely no one who was in the room during the preparation of the crop report should have any communication with the outside world until the report was made public. The secretary was told that they were due at the House at twelve o'clock, and he was requested either to send a note or telephone their friends to explain their absence. Secretary Wilson would not send a note, and as for the telephone, he told the representatives that the phones were disconnected and would remain so until the report was announced. As both members of Congress had elected to stay and witness the preparation of the report, they were told by the secretary that they must continue to wait until the report was made public and that they must not leave the room until the report was made public.

Good apples are in strong demand, at two to three dollars per barrel; chickens at eighteen to twenty cents per pound and eggs at thirty-five to forty cents per dozen. If a farmer cannot combine these, he ought to be able to raise them separately, for at such prices it is an opinion, there is a profit of fully one hundred per cent. Such prices ought to lead farmers to study, and

done. It was something after two o'clock when the prisoners were released. They are both willing to bear testimony to the accuracy that is thrown around the preparation of the cotton report by Secretary Wilson.

The above story brings to light some facts regarding the precautions taken by Secretary Wilson to avoid a repetition of the scandals growing out of the recent "leakages" in the cotton and wheat reports. All Sunday night a faithful employee of the Department of Agriculture, with a big army revolver in his lap, stood guard over an iron box containing the cotton crop report issued this week.

In the presence of the Assistant Secretary of Agriculture Secretary Wilson took the reports from the box on Monday, and without opening the envelopes delivered them to the cotton crop reporting board, composed of Victor H. Olmsted, George K. Holmes, P. L. Hutchinson and F. N. Gray. This was the committee which was looked up with the representatives for five hours.

Several months ago three special agents were appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture to go through the Southern States and make a report to the department. Formerly only one agent was assigned to this task, but in order to prevent another leak, the two additional agents were appointed, thereby making it impossible, without collusion, for any one man to know the total results.

The report as made public by the secretary shows that the area picked and to be picked is estimated at 24,117,153 acres, a reduction of 823,339 acres from the acreage estimated as picked.

WILEY ON COLD STORAGE.

The past month has been made notable in Washington on account of the great number of conventions of bodies having close relations to foods and food consumption. This is probably due, in a sense, to the efforts of President Roosevelt to effect pure food legislation by Congress. Last week the American Warehousemen's Association held a convention in this city. Their meetings were all well attended, yet the session at which Dr. Wiley, chief chemist of the Department of Agriculture, spoke, found every delegate in his seat. He addressed the association on the "Rights of Consumers," taking as his keynote the fact that "scarcity is no longer a necessity in the attainment of commercial success."

"I am not here today to throw bouquets," said the doctor, "and today I want to tell you what I believe you will have to contend with in the near future. It is not good business and it is very bad ethics to deceive the people. There is a very widespread prejudice in this country against warehouse (storage) goods. A little of it may be just; a great deal of it is unjust, but just the same these prejudices must be respected. You cannot beat a prejudice out of a man's head with a club; it must be educated out of him, and the best procedure, to my way of thinking, is to label your goods."

"The consumer has a right to know exactly what he is buying. If he is prejudiced against your goods, help him to get over it, but do not deceive him. The law now compels manufacturers of goods containing glucose to state upon the label of the package which contains these goods that glucose has been used. With imported goods, if any foreign substances have been used in the manufacture, the package containing the goods must so state. The time is coming when all goods must be stamped with the statement that they are either fresh or warehouse goods, and if they are from the warehouse they will be stamped with the date of entry into the warehouse. And the time is not far distant when all cold-storage goods will be stamped 'Cold-Storage Goods.'"

One of the delegates interrupted the doctor long enough to voice his opinion that if the storage men themselves did not take such a step voluntarily, the public would compel them to by enacting laws on the subject.

Dr. Wiley entertained the convention for probably an hour by conducting a quiz class. A few of the delegates thought they would lose money if they followed the advice of Dr. Wiley, but he was back at them with arguments based upon ethical, moral and theoretical grounds which convinced even the most skeptical.

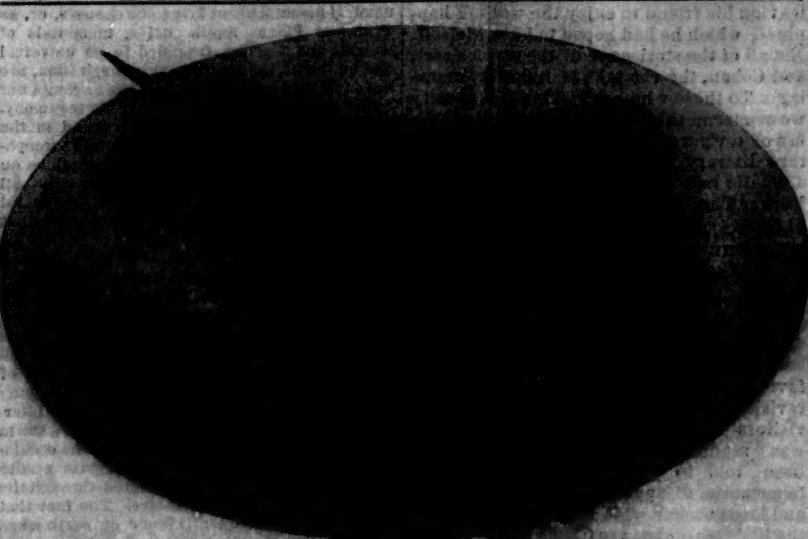
Dr. Wiley stated that he believed in cold-storage goods. "I eat a great deal of cold-storage products," he stated; "and I hope to live long enough to eat a great deal more. But that is no reason why I should not know when I am eating cold-storage food and when I am eating fresh goods. This is a right that belongs to the public and which the public will obtain, even if it has to adopt drastic measures."

COLD-STORAGE TESTS.

Dr. Wiley has begun preparations for a series of cold-storage tests. These tests will continue through the winter and spring, terminating probably on July 1 next. Under his orders a number of chickens, ducks, eggs, vegetables and other products have been carefully selected and marked, and then placed in cold storage. In addition to these, it is understood that he will also have some rabbits, venison, grouse, quail and other game placed in cold storage shortly. The final test, of course, will not take place until next year, but during the time intervening notes will be made on such changes as may take place in the appearance and general keeping qualities of the foods.

GUY E. MITCHELL.

Grow clover, and when started plow under and grow corn. The clover adds nitrogen and brings up potash and phosphoric acid. When vegetable matter decays in the soil it liberates plant food. Clover brings fertility, here is where clover helps.—Forest Henry, Olmsted County, Minn.



AYRESHIRE COW HISS BULL.

Winner of the first prize offered by the Ayreshire Breeders' Association for one year's test. Property of L. S. Drew, South Burlington, Vt.

you are preparing it for market, split it as your customers want it, always remembering that the finer it is split the more it will mean, and also, the more it will cost you.

If you have a tough tree or stick do not try to split it fine, but find a customer who prefers coarse wood. If for your own use plan differently. You know, better than any one else, where you want to store the wood, and how much work it will take to get it there. It must be loaded on a wagon or sled and unloaded into the woodshed, and perhaps moved several times besides. Now your wood can be moved cheaper if it is in blocks as large as can be handled easily than if it is finely split. On the other hand, there will never be another time when it will split as easily as now, and you will be saved the labor of moving it several times, so that the actual cost of splitting the wood will be less than half if the work is all done now. You will have the satisfaction of knowing that the work is all done and the wood will dry much better. Still the cost of moving it will be a little more and you must be your own judge.

A section from a large, forked hickory limb makes a good splitting block. The ends of the fork are chiseled, as shown in the cut, and a piece of plank fastened with wooden pins. Do not use nails, as the axe will be sure to strike them sooner or later. The triangular enclosure holds up the partly split pieces of various sizes, and the workman is saved from bending over to get them up after every stroke. The part of the block where the branches join is hard and tough, making a good base to strike or chop upon.

Vermont.

Soundness in Market Horses.

Perhaps the first and most important essential in a market horse is soundness. It is absolutely useless to expect to sell a horse that is unsound for a good price on any critical market. Unsoundnesses that are most common are those of the limbs and the respiratory organs. A marketable horse should not have a splint as high up on the leg that it interferes with the articulation of the knee joint. A splint may be small and low down and not seriously affect the selling price of the animal. Understand, however, that where you have to consider the highest type of equine beauty you want to avoid blemishes just as you avoid a splint at best in a blemish, and naturally will result in a disfigurement being made against a horse possessing one when he is sold. With light horses, everything that is an offense to the eye must be avoided. The more beautiful a horse is, other things considered, the higher he is going to sell. There must be no ring bone, no side bone or other unsoundness of the feet, and in the hind legs no curb; no spavin, no thrush, pin or bag spavin; of course, he must not be a runner or wind-broken. Now most of these things are unsoundnesses that can be readily detected by any one who is at all competent in judging horses.—Dr. George M. Russell, Washington, D. C.

Yours of Pumpkins.

The second annual Pickering pumpkin show opened in old City Hall, Pittsburgh, Pa., Oct. 23, and lasted three days. Thirty thousand pounds of pumpkins were represented at the show, each one of which was a "chopper." The bulk was donated

Poultry.

Home Consumption of Eggs.
 "Please buy as a dozen of eggs, my dear," said Mrs. Stubbs one day to her husband. "At home we always used what we wanted first and sold the balance; and I must say it seems hard to be pinched now, and there is no sense in being so very penurious."
 Stubbs' hens were not fully through moulting, and the pullets, though well developed and sporting gay combs, had not commenced to lay; so that for a week about Thanksgiving time no eggs were received. Such a thing had not happened before in ten years and madam was disgusted. The eggs were secured, and Mrs. Stubbs stopped for the time being, telling her that she never ran short of anything in her early home.
 Stubbs had been bragging about those pullets all summer, and was almost ashamed to be seen buying eggs and paying three cents apiece for them.
 Whether the pullets overheard madam's complaints, or whether it simply happened so, cannot now be determined; but the next day after buying the eggs they began laying, and have kept it up ever since.

HENRY J. VINTS.
 Berkshire County, Mass.

Shortening the Moulting.

The poultry department of the California Experiment Station is making tests with the object of shortening the moulting season of laying fowls. The plan adopted seems to be a good deal along the lines of the Van Dreese method of very light feeding followed by heavy feeding, but in California they have tried changing the character of the food also. When wishing to stop the egg laying and bring on moulting they reduce the supply of nitrogenous food, including meat, middlings, etc., about one-half. This plan stops egg-laying and the hens go to moulting. In about a month, it is claimed, the moulting process is all finished. The ordinary plan of feeding is then resumed and the hen begins to lay early in the fall. The results in detail have not yet been given out, but in view of the rather unsatisfactory experience with the Van Dreese method there is room for doubt whether the artificial moulting plan will result in much practical gain.

Favors the Leghorns.

I like Brown Leghorns and keep them exclusively, because I take an especial pride and delight in the number of eggs I can get, and while I am about it I want to get as many as there are to be had, finding that it pays to raise eggs for market. Because the up-to-date Brown Leghorn is exceedingly handsome, is bright, active, quick growing and early to come into profit. And a breed so popular that to win is a genuine honor, for it was won in competition, and it takes good stuff to do it. H. M. Moyer, Shanesville, Pa.

Dorticultural.

Soil and Culture for Fruit.

[By George T. Powell, Ghent, N. Y., at a meeting of the State Board of Agriculture, Worcester, Mass., Dec. 5.]

Much land in New England is well adapted to fruit growing. That in the more northern portions is well suited to the production of apples. The land in Massachusetts, especially in the eastern part, produces pears of fine quality and high value, while the soil in portions of Connecticut has no superior for the growing of peaches. While apples are grown among the rocks and uncultivated fields on many of the hills of New England, they are by no means the best apples. The trees grown in these rough places cannot receive the care and cultivation required, and fully seventy-five per cent. of the fruit is so injured by the codling moth and other insects that its value frequently is but little above the cost of barrels, freight and other shipping expenses.

THE MULCH SYSTEM.

There is much discussion of the system of growing trees with mulch rather than by cultivation. While the soil may be improved by a mulch there will be more rapid improvement made through cultivation and the plowing in of green manure crops. For fifteen years we have been following the plan of cultivating the soil among trees up to July 1, and then sowing crimson and red clover, which are allowed to grow the balance of the season to be plowed in the following spring.

One of the great disadvantages of the mulch system is the large amount of water which will be abstracted from the soil in addition to that which is required by the trees. A well-grown apple tree with an abundance of unpurified foliage will take up from the soil and transpire through its foliage every twenty-four hours during the warm days of June and July over four tons of water. An acre of grass during the same time will take up daily and pass out of the soil over one hundred tons of water, and in times of drought trees and fruit suffer alike from this great absorption of water by the grass that is growing for the purpose of a mulch.

This mulch system may possibly be successfully adopted for a time where an orchard is situated on a natural water-shed, where the water is constantly supplied by the higher land, or where there is an inexhaustible subsoil supply. As an illustration of the danger in attempting to start a young orchard on the mulch plan, we can cite one striking instance. In laying out, a few years ago, the plan for an extensive orchard of fifteen thousand apple trees on a farm in New England State, the trees were started under cultivation, and they made most satisfactory growth. The plan was changed a little later to that of the mulch, and at a time when the trees were to be top worked. The growth of the trees was so severely checked by this time that the top working was practically a failure. The trees not only stopped growing, but declined rapidly. Much also collected amongst them to such an extent that they not only ruined many trees, but threatened total destruction of the orchard. The system was changed back to cultivation, since which the trees have taken a new start, and are again making satisfactory and rapid growth.

A PRACTICAL TEST.

To give the mulch plan a careful, personal test at Orchard Farm, five years ago we planted a block of trees in soil, out the grass and placed it about the trees. At the same time, on the same kind of soil, another block of trees was planted which had been given clean culture followed with cover crops of clover. The cultivated trees were present double the size of those under the mulch plan and are already bearing fruit, while the mulch trees are making but slow growth and give little evidence of producing fruit in from eight to ten years. It is very evident that for the soil of Orchard Farm, which is of a gravel loam in character, the mulch system is not at all adapted. The majority of New England orchards



A PRIZE WINNING LEGHORN PULLET

are on hillsides, on comparatively dry land, and in soil, and so long as apples are dependent on such conditions the crops will not only be uncertain to yield, but the quality will be largely inferior. It is wiser to give to orchard purposes a few acres of the best land and devote it entirely to the trees.

OUR PRESENT SYSTEM

is to plant permanent varieties of apples forty feet apart each way, and inter-plant with fillers of early bearing kinds twenty feet apart each way, and we are trying the experiment of again inter-planting with dwarf trees ten feet apart, with clean culture in the early part of the season and cover crops of clover. The soil is expected not only to carry this large number of trees to bearing age, but to be steadily improved at the same time.

We have one orchard planted by my father fifty-seven years ago, the trees standing thirty-three feet apart. The soil is comparatively filled with interlacing roots. For many years the orchard has been in soil, bearing crops quite regularly, in which was a large percent of inferior fruit. For several years it has been under high tillage with crimson and red clover sown annually at the rate of fifteen pounds of seed to the acre, in June or early July, and plowed in each spring, with the result that the soil has not only steadily improved, but the crops of 1904 and 1905 have never been exceeded in quantity or in quality and have never sold for so high value.

While it is advisable to grow other crops in young orchards, if extra fertilizing is done, the profits of the orchard will be greater in future years to give the entire use of the land to the trees, and under these conditions the close inter-planting may be possible if the trees are given the entire resources of the soil.

FILLER TREES.

When the inter-planted or filler trees begin to grow upon the others they must be removed, first the dwarfs on Paradise stock, and later the half dwarfs on Ducun, or if standards of early bearing kinds, then these must be removed as soon as they begin to encroach upon the space of the permanent trees. Herein lies the danger in recommending this system of close planting of trees, for while the fillers are bearing liberal crops of fine fruit the temptation will be strong to leave the trees for one more crop and still another, until without great care the soil will become so taxed and depleted that the entire orchard will fall to produce and the plan will prove a failure. It requires considerable nerve to send in men to cut down three-fourths of the trees in an orchard when they are regularly producing good crops of fine fruit, but this must be done at such time as is demanded by the permanent trees that are to occupy the land for upwards of three-fourths of a century with profitable production.

LOW HEADS.

There will be advantage to the soil as to the trees by starting them with low heads. On land that is naturally well drained, the shading of the ground by low-headed trees will lessen somewhat the very great evaporation during the hot period. While the fine till produced by frequent cultivation serves as an excellent mulch, partial shading of the soil will be an additional help in conserving moisture through the hot season. Low trees will be an advantage in saving drain upon the soil by making practicable the thinning of the fruit. By preventing the growth of all imperfect fruit and the growth of an excessive quantity, there is a saving of the plant food in the soil which is required to perfect the fruit year after year. Thinning fruit is impracticable on high and very large trees, as too much time is required to get over and about them. On low trees this is possible, and where this work is done there may be obtained a very much larger per cent. of high grade fruit.

No less important is the low tree in its relation to the work of controlling insects and diseases. Spraying is now as essential a part of the work of orcharding as cultivation, and this may be much better done upon low trees.

We are giving some attention to the culture of dwarf trees. While these have been used in pear culture on a commercial scale, dwarf apple culture has not been attempted in any commercial way. This can only be done by specialists. In dwarf culture a much higher system of tillage must be practiced. The soil must be more thoroughly enriched, as a greater number of trees are planted upon an acre.

With the general spread of the San Jose scale and the inevitable spread of the rye and brown-tail moths, so serious in their depredations about Boston, the necessity of planting trees of low growth that may be most readily treated to control these insects, and others that may at any time be imported, will be forced more and more upon us. We are starting all standard trees with heads 3 feet and dwarfs from ten to twelve inches in height.

DWARF TREES.

on Paradise stock may be planted eight feet apart each way, which will require 625 trees to the acre. These may be allowed to bear for several years, after which every other row each way may be cut out, leaving the balance sixteen feet apart. With this very intensive method of culture and clean planting the soil must be most thoroughly enriched and made up to support the large demands made upon it. This may be successfully done by the growing of leguminous crops, with the addition of five hundred to one thousand pounds of potash and bone, with fifteen hundred pounds of lime applied per acre as often as growth and condition of the trees indicate their need.

Land has been so abundant and cheap in

our country that we have gone on producing from large areas without giving much thought or attention to keeping up the productivity of the soil, or of applying careful methods for its improvement and restoration of the loss caused by continuous production. We know little of the possibilities of an acre of land, and the dwarf tree call for a much higher degree of culture, and will be the means of leading up to more intensive methods.

Forcing Strawberries for Winter Market.

A compost of thoroughly rotted soda and the cleanings of the cow stable, in proportion of three parts soda-mould to one of manure, is first prepared. Decayed leaves, manure or any good rich loam can be used in place of soda. With this compost made fine and clear by passing through a coarse sieve, fill in June or July as many three-inch pots as are desired and sink them to their rims along the sides of the rows from which the winter-bearing plants are to be obtained.

FROM THE PARENT ROW.

guide the first runners so that they will take root in the pots, letting each runner form but a single, strong plant. In about two weeks these plants with the accompanying earth are ready to be put into eight-inch diameter pots filled with compost. Broken pottery can be placed in the bottom of these pots for drainage. One plant is placed in each pot and the soil pressed firmly about the roots. Place the pots in a shady place for a few days till the roots have taken hold of the new soil, then change to an open, airy position, close together, where they can be cared for daily. The plants must be kept moist and made to do their best until October. After this, water sparingly and aim to ripen foliage and roots and induce a season of rest.

Best varieties for forcing are those of a low, stocky growth, bearing perfect flowers and sweet highly flavored fruit, as Triumph de Grande.

IN NOVEMBER

fill a hot-bed pit with dry leaves, sink the plants in them close together up to their rims, later cover the tops to prevent the earth freezing. Cover the pit with boards to keep out the wet, but not tight enough to exclude the air, keep them barely moist enough to prevent shriveling.

IT REQUIRES FROM TEN TO FOURTEEN WEEKS

to mature the fruit under glass. To ripen berries for the holidays, subject some of the plants to heat in October. They can be taken from storage every two or three weeks, so as to secure a succession, and if a mishap befalls one of the plants there are other chances for winter fruit.

In forcing the plants, follow nature. In the spring, plants gradually awaken into life and blossom when the weather is comparatively cool. Let conditions under glass accord as near as possible with those under the open sky. If heat is turned on too rapidly the plants will look well and blossom, but the stems will be without pollen and the plant turn dry and black. At first the temperature is 45° to 50°. Admit air freely at all times, less will answer in cold weather. If plants grow spindling, give more air and less heat. An average of 55° to 70° by day and 45° to 50° by night. Roots require coolness and evenly maintained moisture, while the foliage needs air and light. Therefore, the pots should be on shelves close to the glass and, if possible, shade the pot while the plant is in full light.

WHEN THE BUDS BEGIN TO OPEN.

the forcing must be conducted slowly and evenly. After the fruit is set, heat can be increased till it occasionally reaches 75° at noon. Give less water after the fruit begins to color; it will make the berries sweeter and ripen faster. Keep off all runners, and fumigate with tobacco if insects trouble.

With a small conservatory or south window an amateur can do fairly well, but if one wishes to go into the business on a large scale, build a strawberry house.

On the same principle, the ripening of strawberries can be hastened by the use of hot-beds, cold frames and ordinary manure.

I. A. F.

Make Cuttings Now.

Few people realize how simple a matter it is to propagate one's own grape vines, currants, gooseberries and most ornamental shrubs. If the work is properly done these plants may be readily propagated by means of cuttings made late in autumn after the leaves are off of the plants but preferably before cold weather comes on. Only well ripened mature wood that has grown during the preceding summer should be selected for the purpose, all soft or immature parts being discarded. The cuttings themselves should be made six to ten inches long, and the lower end should be cut squarely just below a bud so the bud is retained at the lower end. They should be tied up in bundles of convenient size, say one hundred in a bundle, their butts, or basal ends, all one way, well shaken down so as to stand level on a flat table. They may, then, be packed in fresh moist sawdust, and kept through the winter in a cellar or cellophane pit.

Upon the approach of spring, as early as the soil can be worked and before the buds have begun to grow on them, they should be planted out in good garden soil. The rows should be about four feet apart, to admit of easy cultivation, and the cuttings should be set very firmly in the soil, so as to leave no air spaces about them, and cut deep enough so only the uppermost bud is above the ground. They should be given close cultivation and kept to keep down all weeds during the summer, when nearly an excellent growth of plants will be secured.

Curants, gooseberries, the Marquise and Golden Beauty plums, some varieties of quinces, the barberry, spiraea, privet, most varieties of shrubs, willows, poplars and some other varieties of forest trees, root readily from cuttings headed in this manner.—J. O. Whitson, Missouri Agricultural College.

Curious Facts.

—French seamen have a dozen in the person of a centenarian. The old sailor belongs alike to the navy and to the merchant service, for he served in both, and it would be difficult to say in which of the two his adventures were the most thrilling. His real feat was his escape from the battle of Navarino, in which he won mention in orders, the blockade of Algiers, one capture by brigades, followed by himself and his companions sailing the Spanish ship which captured the vessel which had captured them. After serving many years before the mast he became a master and small ship owner on his own account. His name is Pierre Lefras. He was born in November, 1825, and at twelve he went to sea.

—Chicago has a noble, if somewhat odorous, waterway called Rabbit Creek. The stockyards discharge into it. It has been discovered that the famous stream will burn. Says a local paper: "That historic section of the city's commercial waterway can bubble and does bubble, and that it can burn and is burning, and to which rendering plant is as a fragrant more in budding June, and does so exude, has long been a matter of local history, if not pride. But that the famed old swimming pool can be converted into kinetic energy by the mere application of a match has remained for the Weekly Health Bulletin to disclose." It is now proposed to set the river on fire!

—The Japanese are making great strides in the art of advertising. The agents of the government tobacco monopoly offering their wares in Manchuria declare that their cigarette "administers life," "supports the spirits," "this cigarette of government manufacture, is sweet and of good quality, famous, once tried ways to be liked"; "will cause the smoker to feel as if in a dream like unto the Mountains of Woo-shan."

—A case has been reported in Germany which suggests the curative value of fear. The subject, an old woman, had been bedridden on account of paralysis for ten years. Last August she turned up in the region where she lived. Hall destroyed the vineyards, and she left the house. Premature darkness settling down caused general terror. The old paralytic, influenced by fear, leaped from a bed. There has been no relapse, and she may be set down, perhaps, as the only case of the cure by terror.

—Dr. Daniel Murphy, the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Tasmania, who recently celebrated his ninety-first birthday and the diamond jubilee of his episcopate, once made a jest that amidst the late Pope Leo. At the close of a farewell audience in the early days of the Pope said: "Well, brother, I suppose this is the last time we shall meet in this world." But in the early 80s Dr. Murphy turned up again at the Vatican, reminding Pope Leo of his pessimistic prophecy, and added: "So you see you are not infallible after all."

—A handy word much misused is phonomenon. The London Globe once heard a man, explaining its meaning to a friend. He did it as follows: "Now, if you see a cow in a meadow," he said, "dilation is," that's not a phonomenon. It's a pretty animal and what not, but it ain't a phonomenon. And if you see a thistle in a meadow, that ain't a phonomenon. Nor if you see a lark in the meadow, that ain't a phonomenon. It's a pretty bird and what not, but it ain't a phonomenon. But if you were to see that cow sitting on that thistle and singing like that lark, that would be a phonomenon." His friend said, yes, he saw now.

—F. Walden of Zillah, Yakima County, Wash., is a retired preacher who went to the Yakima Valley about ten years ago, bought a tract of land at a low price and set it out in orchard. Three years ago it came into bearing. But Mr. Walden thought that he would sell it. He put it on the market, asking \$100,000 for it. He failed to get a buyer that year, and he had the crop cut in the fall. The fruit that year brought him \$12,500. The farm has now been on the market. It is now producing every year from \$12,000 to \$20,000. Mr. Walden lives in Seattle ten months in the year and spends the other two months harvesting and marketing his fruit crop.

MIDWINTER EXCURSIONS TO MONTREAL AND QUEBEC.

Midwinter vacation! No longer are the famed resorts of Florida, California and the South and West the only haunts of the winter vacationists! Canada, the North of us, has in recent years acquired a great reputation as an ideal winter vacation ground. Montreal and Quebec, delightful, interesting cities, are the ideal winter vacation grounds. To many the idea of a winter vacation in Canada means a journey through snow and ice to a cold, frigid country; but the motorist of his new balloon are more than three times as powerful as those of the old one, though does not greatly exceed them in weight. There is, on the other hand, a considerable increase of weight from the larger store of baggage needed for working them.

Montreal is a city flourishing in the commercial activity with an air of cosmopolitan life and extraordinary planning and enterprising. It has a large and diverse population, and different manners and customs entirely foreign and different, compared with any of our great cities.

The churches, which are examples of the most beautiful architecture in North America, are always interesting and in the best of the city. The hotels are magnificent and the winter and the Plaza View, one of the largest churches in the Dominion, is particularly noted, the St. James, the Hotel de St. Peter's in Rome. The hotels are magnificent and the winter and the Plaza View, one of the largest churches in the Dominion, is particularly noted, the St. James, the Hotel de St. Peter's in Rome. The hotels are magnificent and the winter and the Plaza View, one of the largest churches in the Dominion, is particularly noted, the St. James, the Hotel de St. Peter's in Rome.

Quebec, noted as America's impregnable fortress and, like Montreal, famed for its historical connections, is a city which offers more to the visiting tourist than any resort in North America. There is a side of Quebec, a journey to the Pointe d'Albion, a look upon the battle ground where the harbor, Montcalm and Wolfe, each fighting for his life, met their fate. The antiquated dwellings, the French custom and manners, the most religious display, and the architectural beauty of the churches remind one of an old world city. But the motorist who visits Quebec, and only the winter season, will find it a most interesting and refreshing and representative in the cold, crisp atmosphere of the Canadian Northwest. Quebec has always been noted for an elaborate and most enjoyable winter vacation. The winter season is now rapidly becoming a winter resort ground, and is being visited by a large number of people. The winter season is now rapidly becoming a winter resort ground, and is being visited by a large number of people.

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A purely mutual company incorporated under the laws of Massachusetts.

This company issues all the desirable forms of Life and Endowment policies. The cash, loan, paid up, and extended insurance values to which the insured is entitled by the Massachusetts laws, are stated and guaranteed in each policy.

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Every Regular Limited Payment Life and Endowment policy issued by this company guarantees to the insured to return in the event of death during the payment period the whole difference between the premium paid and the cost of a Whole Life policy at the same age. This feature makes our policies the most equitable contracts offered to the insuring public.

KREMLIN. 2:07³/₄

Sire of forty-one in list, one producing son, six producing daughters.

The Champion Trotting Stallion of 1892.
 FEE \$100, with usual return privilege.

KAYALL. 2:07³/₄

By Kremlin; dam Almera (dam of 6 in list), by Kentucky Prince.
 Fastest four-year-old out in 1902.

Sire of three-year-old, trotted mile 2:19; half 1:05, in 1904.
 Sire of three-year-old, paced mile 2:15; half 1:04, in 1904.
 FEE \$50, with usual return privilege.

Wm. Russell Allen, Pittsfield, Mass.

The BAY STATE NURSERIES

GROW HARDY ORNAMENTALS of every description. SHADE and EVER-GREEN TREES in great variety. HARDY RHODODENDRONS and other broad-leaved evergreens by the car-load or in small quantities. ROSES of all classes and in many sorts. SHRUBS and CLIMBING VINES for all purposes. OUR HERBACEOUS DEPARTMENT contains nearly one thousand varieties of hardy perennial plants new and old. P. EONIAS, PHELOX, IRIS, HARDY ASTERS, etc.

Catalog for 1906, designed for GARDENERS and OWNERS of ESTATES, containing many attractions for buyers of Nursery Stock in quantity, will be mailed free. Send for it.

The Bay State Nurseries (W. H. WYMAN) North Abington, Mass.

The latest fashionable and the keeping a pet cat. They are not often allowed to roam with the same freedom as nature intended them to. Therefore they cannot exercise their instincts in playing games and toiling necessary to their health. A tonic is, therefore, necessary, and the Walnut Cat Food is just what is needed. It keeps them healthy and active. They thrive on it. It increases their appetite, furnishes strength and vitality, and gives the hair to be of soft silky texture. For invalid cats it is invaluable. For old cats it gives them life and appetite. In powdered form in bottles. Try it and make your cat a beautiful pet. Send 50 cents for bottle, or five for dozen. ROBERTSON & BURTON, Tremont Street, Boston, Mass.

ED. LÜBBEN,
 SÜRWRÜDEN, GRAND DUKEDOM OF OLDENBURG,
 GERMANY,
 BREEDER AND EXPORTER OF REGISTERED

Oldenburg Coach Horses

MY horses have won numerous prizes in Europe, North and South America, Australia and South Africa. Customers in the United States have also won a great many prizes on horse purchased of me. I only mention HANNAH, a GRAY AND WHITE FAVORITE STALLION at the WORLD'S FAIR, ST. LOUIS, 1904.

Services in Germany, post and telegraph station on the Bremen-Hude-Nordenham Line, 15 hours from Paris, 24 from London, 2 from Hamburg (landing place of North German Lloyd steamers) 2 from Hamburg. English spoken and corresponded.

WENONA'S GREAT STUD

SHIRE, FRENCH and BELGIAN STALLIONS

ONE third importation of 1905 arrived a few days before New Year's of over 100 head of draft stallions, two years old or over. In this lot were 40 Belgians, 40 French and the balance English horses. We make a specialty of the big, thick, strapping roans. We have in this lot 30 roans of the best of quality and largest size. The three importations of 1905 number over 300 stallions. This last importation is in fine shape, not one with a cold or a cough and every one for sale. We do not have a few over-aged rumpsters here year after year for showing and to ruin the balance of our show herd. We bring out every year a new champion, and in 1905 we have two champions, one to the Shire, the other to the French. We have now 100 stallions of the wide-and-crown sort. In fact we will guarantee to show intending purchasers more wide sound draft stallions than any stable in America or we will pay all expenses and insure the purchasers to the limit. We guarantee 50 per cent. breeders, insure against death by any cause if desired and give the fastest and most satisfactory terms. Come to Wenona and see the stallions in person. We have the best and the best of the best. We have more than 100 stallions of 1905, than any three firms today in the business, and prices to suit you all.

SP—GENTLEMEN AND DELICATE GENTLEMEN WANTED, either on Salary, Commission or at a Price—50 or we will sell to suit cash and take pay when sold by them, provided good security is given.

ROBERT BURGESS & SON, Wenona, Ill.

Wenona is on the Illinois Central R. R. and Chicago & Alton R. R.

ATLAS REFINERY

MANUFACTURERS AND EXPORTERS
 LOW COLD TEST, GUARANTEED PURE,
 AND HIGH GRADE COMMERCIAL

NEATSFOOT OIL

PURITY AND
 UNIFORMITY GUARANTEED
 NEWARK, N. J.

Our Homes.

The Workshop.

MAN'S KNITTED SWEATER, BROCHÉ STITCH.
Seven skeins German knitting worsted,
1 pair needles, bone or rubber, No. 3, 4 steel
needles No. 11.

With five needles cast on 132 stitches and
work 1 plain, knit 1 alternately for 3
inches.

Change to the bone needles and work in
broché until the front of the sweater is 27
inches long.

Next row, knit first 14 ribs as usual and
run them on to a thread. Knit and bind
next 16 ribs, and upon remaining 14 ribs
knit 14 rows in pattern. Upon the stitches
held on the cord also knit 14 rows, the last
one to finish at the neck. At the end of it
cast on 48 stitches for the back of neck, and
knit in pattern across the ribs upon which
the first 14 rows were made. The work is
again 44 ribs wide.

Knit in broché until the back is as long
as the front, finishing with 1 plain, knit 1,
alternately ribbing. Bind off. Sew up
underarm seams, leaving enough space for
armholes.

For sleeves, using bone needles, cast on 66
stitches, knit 1 row in the broché rib, and
at the end of it cast on 9 stitches. Knit in
rib and again cast on 9 stitches at the end.
Next two rows cast 6 stitches on the end,
making in all 96 stitches, or 32 ribs in the
width.

Knit 1 inch without increasing or decreasing,
then narrow 1 stitch at each end of the
needle, knit 4 rows, and again narrow 1
stitch each end. One rib is now narrowed
from each end.

Knit without increasing or decreasing
until sleeve is 11 inches long. Narrow
as before, leaving 28 ribs in the width.
Knit until sleeve is 21 inches long, change
to steel needles, and make off in ribbing.
Rib 1 and 1 for 3 inches and bind off.

For collar, pick up all the neck stitches,
using 4 steel needles. Narrow to 130
stitches, then do 1 and 1 for 3 inches. Bind
off.

EVA M. NILES.

Rest and Perfume Cure.

Pine needles and sweet perfumes are used
to soothe the nerves of the New York
woman. It has been discovered that you
need not be out of sorts unless you want to
be, and in addition that you can cure your
troublesome nerves with nice sweet odors
instead of resorting to unpleasant drugs.

The first and most particular rule is that
the sweet odors must be natural ones.
There must be no made up perfumes. The
points must be those that grow in the parks
and spring up in the woods, that come to
life with the budding of the flowers and die
down when the flowers fade.

Those who are trying the perfume cure
are giving their attention just now to pine
scents mostly. If you want to get the genu-
ine pine odor, take a pine pillow, no matter
how old, and lay it near the fire.

In a little while it will begin to warm up
and to give out sweet scents. You will be
treated to the original odor of the pine.

There is a very nervous and very sensi-
tive woman in New York who treats her-
self every day to the pine needle cure.
When she was away last summer she gathered
material for many pillows of pine needles.

When she is tired she takes a pillow and
warms it and presently it begins to give out
a sweet smell of pine. Then she puts the
pillow behind her head and in a little while
she feels refreshed.

On days when she is very tired indeed and
needs a quick refreshing she takes a dozen
pillows and heats them very quickly. With
these she furnishes her couch. She sleeps it
high with pillows and then she lies down
and breathes the sweet scent. In fifteen
minutes she feels all right again.

There is an extra nervous woman in town
who has a comfortable stuffed with pine
needles. She gathered the needles this fall,
and then she put them in the comfortable
and quilted it just as though she were quilting
feathers.

Pretty soon she had a thick sweet beau-
tiful covering. It was heavy, but so delicious
that she did not mind the weight.

Some nights when she is very weary she
sleeps with this heavy pine comfortable over
her. Again she heats it and puts it
underneath her. It is refreshing, no mat-
ter how she uses it.

If you like sweet scents and want to try
the perfume cure you can get them by
utilizing odds and ends about the house.
You will be surprised to find how many
you can turn into perfume.

Take apple peelings and dry them and
some day when the house seems muggy
take a handful and throw them on the
stove. Take off the peelings before they
begin to burn, but leave them on just long
enough to get the delicious fumes they will
give out, the fumes that are so delightful
when they come out of the oven as baked
apples are cooking.

Some women keep a chafing dish always
handy for the making of sweet scents. Into
the chafing dish they can put a little cologne,
which when heated will emit its fragrance
through the room, or they can add a pinch
of cinnamon or half a drop of oil of cloves,
or even a tiny bit of apple peeling. It takes
very little to make a pleasant smell in the
room.

The influence of odors upon the spirits
can hardly be overestimated. If you will
go in a pine forest you are greeted with a
smell which is invigorating, almost intori-
cating, in its curious buoyancy.

If you go into a clover field you get an
odor which is just as pleasant but alto-
gether different, and this odor can be
brought into the house in winter by taking
clover heads, drying them and stuffing pil-
lows with them. Or some muggy, gloomy
day the pillow can be warmed up, and you
have a perfume which is delightful.

If you want something particularly pleas-
ant take some sea salt and put it in a wide
mouthed bottle and pour in a few drops of
violet perfume. Close the bottle tight, let it
stand a while, then open, and you get the
curious smell of the sea salt, with a slight
tinge of violet, which is always found in
salt air.

If you want to take a bath in something
that is very sweet smelling prepare some
sea salt after this fashion: Buy the salt at
the drug store; take a big handful of it, lay
it in a bottle and add some violet perfume.
Let it stand three days and it is ready for
the bath.

Another plan is to add to the sea salt a
grain of musk, a little essence of violet, and
finally about a teaspoonful of alcohol. Set
the bottle away for three days, turning it
twice a day.

When you are ready to take your bath,
throw a handful of the sea salt into the
water. It will perfume the water without
making it too salty.

Take a jug of salt, and into a gallon jug
pour half an ounce of rose geranium oil and
a cup of alcohol. Turn your jug upside
down. Let it stand a day, turn it back for
a day or so, and so on until you have

worked with it three weeks. The result
will be a very nice jug of sweet smells.
There some squares of a preparation of
ammonia which can be made into very
nice bath vinegar. Take a dozen or more of
these solid pieces and add just enough vi-
olet perfume to cover them.

Then add spirits of cologne until you
have a pint bottle nicely filled. This makes
a delicious bath vinegar, which can be used
every day for two weeks, for it takes very
little to perfume the water.

If you like your hands to smell sweet, and
to some people there is something posi-
tively intoxicating about a pair of sweet
hands, you can make a hand wash by tak-
ing a quart of spirits of cologne, put it in
a half gallon jug, add an ounce of oil of
rose geranium and two grains of musk.

Let it stand a week; then fill up with
spirits of cologne. At the end of another
week you will have as fine a gallon of per-
fume as you will want.

When you are ready to wash your hands
with this sweet mixture take a bowl of
warm water and add to it a pinch of pow-
dered borax. Into this put half a wine glass
of perfume.

Use no soap, but keep this water for
rinsing. It will impart a lasting fragrance
which will remain upon your hands from
morning until night.

Have you ever tried putting up your win-
ter furs in perfume?

Make some sachets and scatter them
through the storage chest, thus using sachet
powders instead of camphor. You will find
that the moths stay away just as well and
the furs come out in the fall smelling sweet.

And the same thing with clothes—those
which you are putting away until spring.
Many of them are of cashmere and light
wool and you don't want the moths to get
into them. Put them away between layers
of sachets and you will find that they will
never have a moth.

There is a story told of a woman who
spent the summer upon the Jersey coast
where mosquitoes are thick. Not wanting
to be eaten alive she sprinkled her bedroom
with sachet powder until the whole room
was filled with perfume. All night long she
slept in peace.

Animals do not as a rule like strong
odors, and disease germs are particularly
averse to them. A strong odor of rose will
drive away many of the contagious dis-
eases, so some scientists affirm, and you
can actually keep yourself well by having
nice smells around you.

Attar of rose is very effective, but unfor-
tunately it is expensive. Oil of rose ge-
ranium is very effective and there are other
extracts which can be bought and used to
good advantage.

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Have you ever tried putting up your win-
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And the same thing with clothes—those
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Poetry.

VISIONS OF DREAMLAND.

O! what blissful dreams in the dreamland of life,
What perfection and grace will charm all our
souls,
How the mind, while in seeking its dreams to
fulfill!

Finds how little perfection the real life imparts;
But 'tis better to aim for ideals in this life,
For it then will be ever uplifting the soul,
As it strives to be like the ideal of its dreams,
And we ever should aim for life's highest, best
goal.

Ah! how sweet are the pictures in dreamland of
love,
And how happy the heart where its reign is
supreme,
And although not possessing love's blessing
yourself,
All are loath to be parting with life's sweetest
dream.

'Tis a comfort that soothes and adds beauty to
life,
Though we only behold and may see it afar;
Were we not even permitted to see it in dreams,
Oh! how much of the beauty of life it would mar.

Tell me where would reformers, in spirit of love
Find their field of sweet labor, if not in ideals?
'Tis the dream of ideals that he wishes to bring
To uplift, until man, all his beauty, soon feels,
Till the world, in its rapture, is seeking a stand
Where the pleasures of life, many fold, will in-
crease;

And 'tis the ideal that will lend it a hand.
Let us never make light of ideals, then, in life,
For we know they are dreams that will lead us
above,
And it is by such visions our souls learn to see,
And we are shown all the beauty in pathways of
love;

While the soul is uplifted and heavenward led
And the blessings of love are bestowed upon
men,
As they follow the leadings of voices within,
Which will lead them to God and to heaven
again.

MARTHA SHEPARD LIPPINCOTT.

Moorstown, N. J.

NOW.

If you have hard work to do,
Do it now.
Today the skies are clear and blue,
Tomorrow clouds may come in view,
Yesterday is not for you;
Do it now.

If you have a song to sing,
Sing it now.
Let the notes of gladness ring
Clear as song of bird in spring,
Let every day some music bring;
Sing it now.

If you have kind words to say,
Say them now.
Tomorrow may not come your way,
Do a kindness while you may,
Loved ones will not always stay;
Say them now.

If you have a smile to show,
Show it now.
Make hearts happy, roses grow,
Let the friends around you know
The love you have before they go.
Show it now.

—Charles R. Skinner, in New York Sun.

TO THE GROWING.

Be patient! Be a Christian and forbear
To oblige the weather man and wear
Because the sting of winter's in the air.

Do you remember
Those days in June a few short months ago,
Whose scorching heat oppressed and baked you
so,
And made you yearn the bluest relief to know
Of cool September?

And when September came and in its train
Brought days of frost and days of sodden rain,
Good gracious! how you kicked and growled
again!

Do you remember?
Those summer days will soon have come once
more,
And you'll forget how bitterly you swore
At all the winter weather gone before.

Will you remember,
When you are sweating in mid-July,
The flakes of frost feathered that were wont to fly
From out the windy reaches of the sky?

This is December!
Meantime, if you should die and you should get
Your just deserts, with oh! what rain regret!
These winter days (because they're cold and wet)
You will remember.

—Catholic Standard.

CHARITY.

Because so bitter was the rain,
Saint Martin shared his cloak in twain,
And gave the beggar half of it,
To shelter him and ease his pain.

But, being now himself ill clad,
The Saint's own coat no longer was sad,
So pitiously cold the night;
Though glad at heart he was, right glad.

Thus, singing on his way he passed,
While Satan, grim and overcast,
Vowing the Saint should rue his gift,
Released the cruel northern blast.

Away it sprang with shriek and roar,
And buffeted the Saint full sore;
Yet ne'er repeated he a word,
And Satan bade the deluge pour.

Huge halibuts fell in fierce attack,
And dealt Saint Martin many a thrack,
"My poor old head!" he, smiling, said,
Yet never wished his mantle bled.

"He must be shall," cried Satan, "know
Regret for such an act." And lo!
E'en as he spoke the world was dark
With fog and frost and whirling snow.

Saint Martin, struggling towards his goal,
Mused thoughtfully: "Poor soul! poor soul!
What use to him was half a cloak—
I should have given him the whole."

The cold grew terrible to bear,
The birds fell frozen in the air;
"Fall thou," said Satan, "on the ice,
Fall thou asleep, and perish there."

He fell, and slept, despite the storm,
And dreamed he saw the Christ Child's form
Wrapped in the half the beggar took,
And, seeing him, was warm and took.

—E. N. Lucas, in Fall Mail Magazine.

THE ORACLE.

I lay upon the summer grass,
A gold-haired sunny child came by,
And looked at me as loath to pass,
With questions in her lingering eye.

She stopped and gazed, then drew near;
(Ah, the pale gold around her head!)
And o'er my shoulders stooped to peer—
"Why do you read?" she said.

"I read a poet of old time
Who sang through all his living hours
Beauty of earth—the streams, the flowers,
The stars more lovely than his rhyme."

"And now I read him since men go
Forgetful of the sweetest things;
Since he and I love brooks that flow,
And dawns, and bees, and flash of wings."

She stared at me with laughing look,
Then clasped her hands upon my knee—
"How strange to read them in a book!
I could have told you all of these!"

—Arthur Davison Ficke, in Harper's.

Somewhere there waiteth in this world of care
For one lone soul another lonely one,
Each chasing each through all the weary hours,
And meeting strangely at some sudden goal,
Then blend they, like green leaves with golden
flowers,

Into one beautiful and perfect whole.
And life's long night is ended, and the way
Lies open onward to eternal day.
—Edwin Arnold.



SCENES AT LOCATION OF THE SHOSHONE IRRIGATION PROJECT.

Miscellaneous.

A Treat for Bertie.

"I've always kept it out of your way," said
Miss Edith, affecting to totter beneath the
weight of a large brown leather-bound book,
"but I suppose—now—you'll have to make the
acquaintance of all the sisters and cousins
and aunts. Albums are supposed to be out of
style, I know, but I think families will always
have them. No, I don't require your support,
thank you. Just sit down there quietly and
behave yourself while I show them to you—and
don't make any stupid comments. I said 'behave
yourself.'"

"That isn't misbehaving," said the prospective
member of the family.
"I'd like to know what you call it?"
"Very nice, as far as it went."
"Don't, Bertie. Now look here. Here's pa
and ma to begin with. They're recent, of course.
I don't like ma's expression very well; she looks
so serious. Pa's all right."

"Good likeness, both of 'em."
"Think," said Miss Edith, turning the page, "is
Ruth when she was a little bit of a thing. I
think she's cunning, don't you?"
"A wfully cunning."

"And that one on the opposite side is Jim
when he was a baby. He seems to be surprised
about something."

"I'd never have recognized him. It's the first
time I ever saw him without his pipe. I'm sur-
prised, too. Where do you come in?"
"Never mind about me. That's Grandma
Brown. You never saw her, but she's likely to
come here for a visit in the spring. You'll have
to mind your P's and Q's then, sir."

"She does not look very venomous."
"Bertie! Well, I should say she didn't. She's
the sweetest, loveliest old thing that ever was.
She used to pet me to death when I was a little
girl."

"I'd like to know how she could help it."
"Goose."
"You know that I am sorry that I didn't know
you then."

"When?"
"When you were a little girl. I seem to have
lost such a lot of time."
"You didn't lose any time after you did know
me."

"Well, I knew a good thing when I saw it.
Never mind; I won't lose any more time! I can
help it."
"I expect you'll stay down at your club four
nights out of every week."

"You've got another guess coming."
"Sweetness."
"Are you quite perfectly, absolutely sure that
—that you do?"
"I'm perfectly, absolutely sure that if I don't
nobody in the world ever did or ever will. Are
you sure?"

"Oh, I think maybe I do—a little."
"Edith!"
"Now, Bertie, stop! Yes, I'm sure. You
know I am. Bertie, Aunt Martha's looking at
you! I shall want to show you that album
and you don't seem interested one bit."

"Who's this?" asked the young man.
"I told you that was Aunt Martha. The other is
Uncle Harry. They used to be quite wealthy,
but Uncle Harry lost his money in some invest-
ment and now he seems to have changed a great
deal. He won't work any more, and Aunt Martha
just supports him. Of course, that's a family
secret, but I wouldn't keep anything from you."

"Are you sure?"
"Quite sure. We'll just tell each other every-
thing, won't we, darling?"
"I'm sure I wouldn't hide a thought from
you."

"Nor I from you. I think that's where some
couple make a mistake—not telling things to
each other. We won't be like that, will we?"
"I don't see how people can if they truly love
each other."

"I don't either."
"Perhaps—I don't think people do care for one
another as much as we do—do you?"
"I'm sure they don't."

"Bertie, we were going to look at the album.
Now tell me what you think of this girl."
"Tell me Harry she is fine. I'm not going to
make any rash breaks. I've looked through
photograph albums before."

"Whom did you look through them with?"
"Why, with friends. You know it's not an
unknown form of order. What are you look-
ing at me for like that, Edith?"

"What friends?"
"Why—er—I don't just call to mind. Why,
Edith, you don't suppose it was anything like
this, do you? No. Nobody I ever cared two
pins about. If I had I'd tell you directly."

"You are positive?"
"Quite positive. You see, I don't even recol-
lect what it was."

"Oh, I didn't suppose it was anybody, really.
I was just joking. Bertie, doesn't it seem
strange?"
"What?"

"Eight months ago we didn't know each other
at all and now here we are sitting here—en-
gaged."

"It seems too good to be true to me, some-
times. When I think of it—and how something
might have happened and I might never have
seen you! I was thinking of going to St. Louis
last year."

"Bertie, suppose you had?"
"You would probably have found some one
else you liked."

"I wouldn't have done anything of the kind."
"I know I wouldn't. Why didn't I ever, and
anybody I liked better? Do you think you ever
have found some one else?"

"I'm quite certain I wouldn't. Nobody I could
have cared for as I care for you. No, I guess I
was all fixed up beforehand. We were just cut
out for each other, darling. I don't believe I
would have made any difference if I had gone to
St. Louis. I'd have met you somewhere."

There was an abrupt start as a heavenly look-
ing lady entered the room. "Well!" she ex-
claimed, "what are you two young people doing
here in the dark?"

"I was showing Bertie the photograph album,
mamma," said Edith.
"It isn't!" said the matronly looking lady.
"It didn't look much like that to me."—Chicago
News.

Doubt's Department.

The day was better than words on tall,
So hot the jelly-fish wouldn't jell.
The halibut went all to butter,
And the cat-fish had only force to utter.

A faint sea-mew—ay, though some have doubted,
The carp he carped and the horn-pout pouted.

The sardonic carline had his sly heart's wish
When the angel-fish fought with the paradise-
fish.

"Twas a sight gave the blue-fish the blues to see,
The seal conspired a wicked glee.
Till the pickered picked the purple-crab's purse,
And that crab felt embroiled yet, no doubt,

Because the oyster wouldn't shell out,
The sculpin would sculp, but hadn't a model,
And the cod-fish begged for something to coddle;
But to both the dolphin refused its doll.

Till the whale was obliged to whale them all.
—Katherine Lee Bates, in Churchman.

Mrs. Cottontail's Winter Palace.
"See what I have!" shouted Duane Newton,
as he rushed into the house one bright morning
with a pair of tiny white rabbits in his hands.

His mother gave permission to keep them, and
when his father came home that night and saw
the two little white rabbits contentedly munch-
ing cabbage leaves in the box which Duane had
hastily converted into a cage he laughed and
said:

"My dear boy, you can't keep them in there;
they'll soon be too large to turn around in that
box."

"Oh, papa, but I am going to make a nice big
cage for them tomorrow—Joe and I," he said.

"Well, Duane, I have an idea for a cage for
your bunnies which doesn't need any cleaning
out, and from which the cruel dogs can't snatch
them, as they did your last family," said his
father.

"Won't need any cleaning out!" repeated the
small boy eagerly, that being a task he greatly
dreaded.

"Yes, and where they can raise some little
bunnies without your handling them to death,
too. For Duane's past experience in raising
bunny families had been, to say the least, dis-
couraging. The mother had even deserted him,
and when his father came home that night and saw
the two little white rabbits contentedly munch-
ing cabbage leaves in the box which Duane had
hastily converted into a cage he laughed and
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out, and from which the cruel dogs can't snatch
them, as they did your last family," said his
father.

that required filling only once or twice a week.
This is how he made it:
Taking a small tin pail, he drove a nail
through the side about an inch from the top,
making a small hole. Then filling the pail with
water and placing over the top as a cover a
flower pot seven or eight inches larger in diameter
than the pail, he quickly inverted the pail so
that it rested in the saw. The water came out
from the hole in the pail only until the sawcer
was full, and as long as any water remained in
the pail the sawcer was kept full.

Duane raised many families of bunnies the
following year, because Mrs. Bunny kept the
babies in their nursery until they were large and
strong enough to venture forth to see the great
world.—New York Mail.

Tommy's Acts of Kindness.
Governor Folk of Missouri was talking about
reform.

"We all believe in it," he said, "but we want
to see it brought about at other folks expense.
We are like, too like, a certain Kansas City boy.
This boy's mother said to him on her return
from a long day's shopping in the Thanksgiving
season:

"Now, I hope my little Tommy has taken to
his mother's talk of last night about charity
and unselfishness. Since he has thought of other
people's troubles all day long. Since he has many
times for thanksgiving to others. What is
my Tommy's report for the day? How many
acts of kindness has he done? How much love
has he lightened? How many hearts has my
Tommy made grateful and glad?"

"In this way spoke the good young mother.
And her Tommy replied:

"I've done a whole lot of good, ma. I gave
your new hat to a beggar woman, and I gave the
cook's shoes to a little girl in busted rubbers
what I seen on the street, and I gave a poor
lame shoemaker's wife a pair of new shoes, and
the open front one that he hardly ever wears."

The Baby's Position.
The teacher wished to impress the idea of the
wrong of idleness. He led up to it by asking
the persons who got all they could and
did nothing in return. For some time there was
silence, but at last a little girl exclaimed, with
a good deal of confidence: "Please, sir, it's the
baby!"

Gems of Thought.
"Let man, then, learn the revelation of all
nature and all thought to his heart; this, namely:
that the Highest dwells with him; that the
source of nature is in his own mind, if the
sentiment of duty is there."—Kierkegaard.

"I shall pass through the world at once,
therefore, any good thing that I may do, or any
kindness I may show, let me do it now; let me
not neglect it, as I shall not do this way again."

"There is nothing in the world so much
admired as a man who knows how to bear
unhappiness with courage."—Seneca.

"Every man must bear his own burden, and
it is a fine thing to see any one trying to do it
patiently, carrying his cross bravely, silently
and in a way which makes you hope
that he has taken for his pattern the greatest of
all sufferers."—Hamilton.

"Skepticism has ruined many a noble mind
and many a hopeful work, but it has never
helped to produce anything of its own, hopeful
or noble or beautiful or great."—Father Henry
Colegrids.

"Never to tire, never to grow cold; to be
patient, sympathetic, tender; to look for the
hidden flower, and the opening heart; to bear
always; like God, to love always;—this is duty."
—Amiel's Journal.

"Cast forth thy net, thy word, into the ever-
living, ever-working universe; it is a seed grain
that cannot die unharmed today. It will be found
growing as a harvest some day, or, perhaps, as a
harvest forest after a thousand years."—Caryle.

"A little thinking shows us that the deeds
of kindness we do are effective in proportion to
the love we put into them. More depends upon
the motive than upon the gift. If the thought be
selfish, if we expect compensation, or are guilty
of close calculation, the result will be like the
attitude of mind which invited it."—Dreiser.

Fashion Notes.
Every one must have noticed the revival of
the peplum in dress decoration. Many of the
handsomest broadcloth street gowns are thus
decorated, the effect given being one of graceful
elegance. Let no one regard a peplum gown as
economical. The peplum gown has to be bound by
hand, an endless proceeding and one which adds
materially to the tailor's bill. On strictly tail-
ored gowns the peplum is usually bound with
the dress material, but often the color of the
binding is a contrast, thus adding to the effec-
tiveness of the effect. Tulle, satin, and velvet
are also used.

Even thin gowns are trimmed with peplums.

One sees children, not and other children farther
unfaded and bound with the latest of ribbons
or ties. These gowns are usually discarded until
they look like discarded ragdolls of the
Tulliver and Empey Englands.

Another old-fashioned trimming revived in
sleeve plaiting. In the early seventies gowns
were trimmed with down and down of yards
of narrow ribbons of plaitings. We are not en-
tirely unfamiliar with such trimmings, having
seen them in many a fashion show, and now
and then a narrow plaiting has been revived
and no one knows precisely where they will stop.

It must be a source of amazement to the
fashionable that under the hems of the gowns
have changed, and the two, the solid black
has now to be by some means compressed. Slips are
very unfashionable. In fact, to be truly smart,
one must have a figure like the traditional beau-
tiful, very long and quite straight up and down.

Another change of the line is observed.
Bodices are short and round, without a suggestion
of dip in front. This gives the short waisted and
long limbed effect which is considered desirable
just at present. This is in opposition to the beau-
tiful figure which has no waist at all. The
bodices are short and round, without a sugges-
tion of a figure exactly the right shape. But
only slender women with small hips wear these
modern bodices, so the long, straight lines
are preserved.

The Empire models suppress the waistline
very effectively. The Empire gown is very
short waisted and has full, plaited skirts, or else
flared widely without being plaited or gathered.

The very high stock seems to be a feature
of most of the newest street gowns. One sees
very pretty black velvet stocks, very high,
trimmed with a turnover from collar. Another
new stock is the two-fold embroidered linen
band, unadorned, but still enough to hold its
place. Heavy linen stocks and cuffs are em-
brodered in blues and reds in gay effects of dots
and scrolls. These are pretty to wear with flane-
lled waists. High stocks and deep cuffs of Irish
linen are as smart as anything one can wear
this winter. These make charming holiday gifts.

Colored cloth garters are worn a great deal,
especially with patent leather shoes, which
every one knows are very odd things. The spats
go far towards supplying necessary warmth, and
the black stock is an addition to the toilet. It is pos-
sible to get spats to match almost any shade of
the fashionable colors, but it cannot be denied
that the most effective spats are brown, black,
dark blue or gray. Red, green or purple ones
are becoming, as a rule, and as for the
shepherd's plaids they increase the size of the
feet, and that is enough to say of them, since the
modern woman has a sufficiently large foot al-
ready.

The patent leather low shoe with heels of
pale blue or maroon leather were rather startling
they are in line with the numerous fancy slip-
pers and shoes which are offered in the shops.
Their variety is very great, from patent leather
pumps, untruncated save for a conventional bow
of dark ribbon, to elaborately beaded and
trimmed models and satin affairs with rosettes or
bows of satin and chiffon. A pretty slipper,
which comes in black, oyster or bronze kid, has
a round toe, a very high heel and a low-cut
vamp. A tiny beaded bow trims the slipper, the
vamp of which is further ornamented with a
bow, and ends worked on the kid in tiny bright
beads. A satin slipper, which comes in black
and colors, is trimmed with a huge Florentine
knot of tulle with fine gold beads. This slipper
in white satin and gold beads is very attrac-
tive.

From shoes to gloves is a natural transi-
tion. With the approach of cold weather fur-
lined and fleece-lined gloves become popular.
Glove gloves with a lining of squirrel are offered.
They are rather bulky, nevertheless, and most
women will prefer a stockinged doppelgänger
glove. They are expensive, but the lined gloves
wear very well.—New York Evening Post.

His Body the Church.
Sermon Preached by Rev. William Wren-
ham, Pastor, St. Mark's Methodist
Central Church, Brookline, on
Bible Day.

Text—1 Cor. xlviii: "His body the Church."
The Church is spoken of in Scripture as
"The Bride of Christ," "The New Jerusalem,"
"The Apple of God's Eye." It seems to me that
no other expression is so significant and so
expressive of the Church's true nature as this, "The
Church is His Body."

It will profit us, as we approach this theme
reverently, to suggest a few facts relative to our
own bodies which require so much of our atten-
tion. In the first place, we do not need to know
physiology to understand our body's nature and
its needs. My hands, my feet, my head, my eyes,
they are simply instruments, the medium
through which my soul comes in contact with the
world; a set of tools which I use to do my work.

So the Church is a vehicle through which God
pours His life. It is the medium of divine con-
tact with the world. It perpetuates the divine
Incarnation. As the human soul needs embodi-
ment, so God needs the Church and depends upon it.
He cannot continue the work which He began
in His Son Jesus Christ without the Church. The
Church makes Christ visible. It takes the place of
the body which He wore as "The penultimate Prince
of Palestine."

Again,

The Horse.

Mechanical Traction and Horse Production.

The Scientific American in an article on the bicycle and the automobile refers to the rise and sudden collapse of the bicycle and asks this pertinent question: "Shall we see repeated the history of the bicycle in the booming of the automobile?" The large numbers of cheap autos that will soon make them a cheap machine.

The distinction of the automobile by the high prices has given distinction to the enthusiastic owners, but when everybody gets to riding in the auto as they did with the bicycle, there will be a mechanical collapse and mechanical traction will assume normal position along with the electric car and the locomotive; a help to the horse which elevates him to a higher sphere; that requires better and larger draft horses for work and finer, handsomer carriage horses for driving at higher prices; more profit to the farmer who can raise these high-class horses to suit the market demands for special classes of horses, while the all-purpose horse, the street car, and the small, cheap horse have already given place to the draft and coach horses at three times the price.

The editor does not refer to the horseless age so slipperily used a few years ago by the auto enthusiasts, but says, "the automobile will rival the trolley car and the locomotive." And we all know that these increased demand for horses, and if history repeats itself mechanical traction will increase the use and demand for more horses and better horses.

The editor says: "The history of sports and pastimes in this country furnishes no parallel to the rapid growth in popularity of the bicycle and its even more sudden decline as a means of recreation." Its decline is rendered the more puzzling when we remember that the medical profession inducted bicycle riding as being, when followed in moderation, of valuable assistance in keeping the body in good condition, and in the cure and prevention of certain ailments that arise from sedentary habits and the lack of a proper amount of outdoor exercise. So true is this that if it were possible to gather the testimony of the hundreds of thousands of people in this country, whose "wheels" are today rusting in the cellar or stored ingloriously among the top attic lumber, it would be found they readily admit they have never enjoyed the perfect health which was theirs when the Sunday trip into the country or the evening ride on the boulevards or cycle paths formed an important and pleasurable item in the routine of their lives.

The causes for the decline were many. The chief trouble was the very one that is threatening the automobile today—people rode too fast and too far; and those who were not gifted with the muscular and constitutional equipment necessary for riding centuries, or even half-centuries, without distress, began to associate the bicycle with aching limbs and an exhausted body. Another and scarcely less active cause of the decline was the introduction of cheap bicycles, and the placing of the wheel within reach of everybody who could find the necessary forty or fifty dollars for its purchase. Bicycling became unfashionable; and in this respect the decline of wheeling is one of the most startling signs of the fact that the American people are fast losing that independent, democratic spirit which for three centuries has been one of the distinguished characteristics of the race. When the fad became unfashionable its death knell as a pastime of universal popularity was sounded. The bicycle was relegated to uses purely utilitarian. As a means of transportation it will always fill a useful place in the economy of everyday life; but that bicycling will ever win back anything of its former position as one of the most fashionable and popular means of recreation is most improbable.

But what of the automobile? Will it cause produce like effects? The introduction of cheap and reliable automobiles (and if the plans of certain firms do not miscarry the market will within the next two or three years be flooded with such) will bring the automobile within reach of the pocketbook of ten times as many people as can afford a machine under existing conditions. Shall we see repeated the history of the bicycle? Will it become unfashionable? Possibly in a limited degree it will; although it must remain one of the most useful means of transportation, both for freight and passenger, that invention has placed at the service of man, rivaling, if not surpassing, the locomotive and the trolley car.

Choice Butter Higher.

The condition reported last week has become more emphatic with regard to the choice grades. Among large receipts for the time of year the proportion of choice butter is very small, and is therefore in better demand than other kinds with the result that the price has improved a good sized fraction of a cent during the week. The bulk of the trade, however, is in lots a fraction lower than 24 cents, which represent a few choice marks of limited amount. Lower grades are in large supply, and show some improvement in price, sales being slow, which forces dealers to meet buyers' views in order to clear out the stock. Even box and print butter holds steady at quotations which are only a little higher than tub butter. In fact, the demand for tub butter has been unusually good, comparing well with that of other kinds, large tubs actually being more sought than those of smaller size. June storage butter is selling in a limited way very satisfactorily to dealers in view of the large stock in sight.

In fact, holders of storage butter are not very well satisfied with the slow rate at which the stock has been moving out of the storehouses of late. It looks as if the storage grades of butter would have to sell rather lower than at present in order to insure that the stock on hand will be taken care of before the close of the season.

The cheese market shows practically no change from last week, the same situation continuing with demand light and prices held firmly.

The week opened at New York with unusually light arrivals, but the near approach of the holidays, coupled with mild weather, tends to keep a very conservative feeling, and there is not much disposition to disturb values. Qualities that are acceptable to the best trade, and which comprise the finest current receipts, sell at 24 to 24 1/2 cents, very rarely a little more. Leaving that grade, prices settle rapidly to 20 to 22 cents, at which a very considerable part of the current business is being done. The lower grades of fresh are more or less neglected. We note some further improvement in the quality of many of the marks that recently closed the second year just coming in the grade of first. Quite a number of marks have shown one to three points higher score. This shows a little higher average

quality, but it does not increase the quantity of extra. There is a slow market for held creamery, but a fairly steady holding of strictly fancy well-kept lots. A few purchases by exporters were reported, but as a rule they are inclined to hold off until after the stock now on hand has been cleared. The corrected shipments for last week were 6293 packages, and a fair quantity will go out this week. There is some trading in factory butter at 17 to 17 1/2 cents generally, here and there, a lot of high quality bringing a little more money.

Trading in cheese is naturally moderate in view of the near approach of the close of the old year, and little improvement is expected until after the new year fairly opens. Stocks of fancy cheese in store are not considered excessive and well under control, with holders quite firm in their views, and show no disposition to hurry business. The little trading passing is at full prices, and particular buyers looking for especially attractive quality are compelled to bid a little premium over top quotation in order to secure quality to suit them. Most of the little business doing is in desirable grades of October made, and prices of such fairly steady. Late made cheese is still coming along rather freely for so late in the season, but quality undesirable and bulk has to go into store to await a future outlet. Fine skims are in moderate supply and sell fairly at steady firm prices, but other grades generally slow.

Cable advices to George A. Cochrane from the principal markets of Great Britain report butter markets as active, demand good and large for the Christmas trade. Sellers have the advantage, especially on top grades of all butters. Under grades, while firmly held, are not quotable higher. Finest grades: Danish, 26 to 27 cents; Irish, 23 1/2 to 24 cents; New Zealand, 24 to 25 cents; Argentine, 24 to 25 cents; Canadian and Australian, 23 1/2 to 24 cents; Russian, 22 to 23 cents; American creamery is having a better sale, but quality generally not fine enough for the shipping out; prices take a wide range, 20 to 22 cents. Ladies have a moderate sale at 18 to 19 cents. Cheese markets are very firm, active and higher, with heavy reductions of stocks in all markets. Finest American and Canadian, 13 to 14 cents.

Eggs Tend Lower.

The egg market is rather dull at the decline from the high price a few weeks ago. Western eggs mostly cleared as newly laid sell as low as 27 to 28 cents. Fancy henry eggs sell ten cents higher than this grade. The general run of New England eggs ranges from 23 to 24 cents. Refrigerator eggs are urged on the market on account of the large stock on hand, and holders are forced to accept slightly lower prices, ranging from 17 to 20 cents.

The future of the egg market is really a weather problem and not much more can be said. A continuance of the present mild weather will still further increase the production of eggs in the South and to a less extent in other parts of the country and weaken the whole situation. Perhaps the storage men would become nervous and try to force their product on the market faster than conditions warrant, thus resulting in a break in the market. On the other hand, if the weather is about as usual in winter, it is likely that prices will hold fairly well and the storage stock be disposed of without upsetting the rest of the market. Such conditions would probably be best for all concerned, especially for the producers of fresh eggs, who would thus be sure of a steady market at reasonable prices. A number of dealers say they expect the highest prices of the season will come along the first part of January, but as said before, all depends on the weather.

At New York there is still rather a short supply of strictly high grade fresh-gathered eggs, which is made more noticeable by the withdrawal from sale of a number of lots under shippers' orders. Prices for fine stock are firm at the moment, but the market would be sensitive to any increase in the supply, and advices indicate a gain in production in some sections. Medium and lower qualities are still moving slowly, and there is quite a good deal of stock on hand, recently received, for which it would be difficult to find buyers above about 22 to 23 cents. Refrigerator eggs are still urgently offered and are meeting a slow market; prices rule weak and irregular.

High Prices for Cranberries.

Cranberries are the most surprising feature of the market to many dealers. While the shortage was generally recognized, it was hardly believed that prices could go up to such extremes as at present. It was thought that high prices would cause the great bulk of consumers to go without this popular fruit. Even in ordinary seasons the price at retail is rather high, and it might hardly be believed that people in general would be willing to pay as much for a quart of cranberries as for a basket of strawberries in season, but so great is the general prosperity that dealers seem to have no difficulty in selling at the highest figures. Fruit selling at 313 per barrel is nothing beyond the regular range of quality. There are fancy stocks that have sold as high as \$14.50, and it is reported that there are holders asking \$18. Almost any decent cranberries will bring \$12, a price which would ordinarily seem extreme.

No wonder there is quite a boom in the cranberry business; the large growers and corporations in this State are many of them enlarging, and report comes from Wisconsin

that the largest concern there has bought six hundred acres of big land, which will increase its holdings to around three thousand acres. The situation is not wholly fortunate for growers, as it may lead to competition, which in years of large crop will make prices unprofitable. But so far as this year is concerned, the man who has cranberries to sell is certainly in luck.

Boston Milk Supply.

The following statement, compiled from figures furnished by the companies, shows the quantities of milk brought into Boston during the month of November over the three railroads: Boston & Albany, 1,239,651 quarts; Boston & Maine, 1,422,797 quarts; New York, New Haven & Hartford, 1,737,047 quarts.

Dealers Working Potatoes Prices. The New York potato market continues weak, with large supplies on hand in the leading markets. Some dealers consider the situation temporary and likely to improve about the first of the year.

The importations of foreign potatoes continue and these are the disturbing factor in the market. Probably these importations do not pay the owners. They were started on their way when the market was in better condition, and once having started they must be sold at whatever they will bring. The price of such potatoes ranges from \$1.75 to \$2.25 per 105-pound bag. These figures are lower than domestic potatoes and the quality is not so good as that of choice home grown.

Maine stock in bulk brings \$2.25 per 105 pound bag, which corresponds to about \$1.50 to the grower at shipping stations in Maine. These potatoes are very fine in appearance and quality. Michigan stock is also good and sells at about the same price as Maine, but most of them are going West and South. New York State potatoes do not average quite so good as Maine and Michigan this year, except Long Island potatoes, which as usual command a premium over all other standard kinds. Long Island growers hold their stock at 75 cents a bushel, but are not selling much at present at these prices, which are a little above what buyers are willing to pay. As soon as the foreign stock is out of the way it seems likely that conditions will improve. Some importers are reported losing considerable money, and others are likely to be forced to have any other shippers over. Potatoes from Bermuda sold at around \$5 a barrel.

Rather large quantities of potatoes are coming from Canada. These have to pay 25 cents per bushel duty, but still seem to net prices which encourage growers to keep on shipping. Sweet potatoes are cheap and plenty, averaging about the same price as white potatoes or even more for the inferior grades.

Boston dealers are indulging in a great deal of talk about the future of the potato market, and opinions are varied. It seems to be generally agreed that very high prices cannot be expected in view of the readiness of shippers in Europe to unload their surplus upon this market at figures around \$2 per barrel.

There are many who say prices will go higher along the first of the year. Some, while admitting this probability, say that a large stock of potatoes on hand threatens an over supply toward spring, and possibly a repetition on a small scale of last spring's slump in the market. When asked what they would advise shippers to do, it is generally suggested that it is best for all concerned that the crop be steadily and gradually moved to market whenever conditions are reasonably good. This is the position taken in these columns all through the season. Growers who have marketed their stock gradually have less to worry about, and have a part at least of their product turned into cash. It seems that the average prices throughout the season will show a fair profit to growers, and that is all that can be expected except in a very extraordinary year.

A dealer who has been traveling in Europe thinks most of the potatoes available for shipment are from Ireland and Scotland. Germany, he thinks, cannot ship to the United States unless the price advances considerably, while Belgium and Holland have no surplus. He looks for a higher market after Christmas, but does not expect any great advance.

The December report of the Department of Agriculture, as previously stated, gives the potato yield a little above the average for the past ten years. As the average price for the past ten years has been between 35 and 40 cents per bushel in the large markets, the report would certainly give little room for hope of high prices this year, but it must be taken into consideration that the times are extremely prosperous, a condition which always tends to the high prices of everything. Hence potatoes may be expected to sell higher than they would in ordinary years with so large a crop on hand. Utah and Idaho are beginning to grow potatoes for shipment, sending out 650 cars the present season, all to far Western markets.

Michigan potato growers seem well satisfied with this season's crop. Accounts are published of farmers who raised three hundred bushels per acre, selling them for 30 cents per bushel, and buying from the proceeds several times as much land as that on which the potatoes were grown.

Apple Conditions Improving.

The demand in Boston continues good for nearly all grades of apples and prices are being held up strongly, with some lots exceeding our quotations. As expected, the surplus which accumulated a short time ago is already being taken care of, with none of the supply running light. Fancy stock is in lively demand, with Baldwin as standard. Some of the stock in storage is already coming on the market, bringing stock down to about thirty thousand barrels. The outlook for holders in both common storage and cold storage is exceedingly good. It looks like an early clearance of the market and a strong price situation.

Foreign apple markets continue favorable, the chief limit in trade appearing to be the limited supply. With quotations ruling as high as they do now for choice apples in the leading American markets, there is less incentive for shippers to send them to Europe with the added expense and risk to be considered. Baldwin and Greenings in London market range around \$4 for good lots, which would correspond to about \$4.50 in New York. Some choice Boscots are selling higher than either Baldwin or Greenings and some about the same as Baldwin. Lots not quite so good sell at about \$4 in London market, which would correspond to \$5 to the American shipper.

The bright feature of the foreign apple market is the fact that exports this year have almost equalled those of last year notwithstanding the very much smaller crop. Every barrel of fruit exported takes just so many of the domestic market and keeps

prices very steady here. Gold-champain, Baldwin and Greenings of reasonably good quality are bringing \$3.50 to \$4 in New York. Exports of such stock must be made on this basis, allowing at least \$1 more for expenses, but shipments continue to go forward at a rapid pace, showing the extremely healthy condition of the market abroad. Exporters generally expect a good trade throughout the next two months.

The apple situation, as stated up by the International Fruitgrowers Association, indicates a light stock on hand with far less apples in storage than last year. With the excellent foreign demand and the very bright trade in the large centers here, it looks as if there would be no trouble in taking care of the apple supplies even at the present high range of prices. There are many who conclude that apples will hold about present range for some time to come. There are apples enough to go around at present prices and prosperous consumers are likely to buy them in moderate amounts.

General-Greening, a variety of Halfax Halfax for London this season have amounted to 125,000 barrels, and the average net price to the growers of New Scotland has been \$2.50 per barrel, showing a total net return of \$317,415. The crop this season will turn out less than an average, though shipments to date are not far behind the record at the corresponding date last year. Apples have been coming forward freely. Ribston and Kings have turned out good, but Baldwin are short, and consequently shipments after the new year, when the harder fruit is due, must fall off. The prices ruling this season are as high as any attained during the past ten years. The average shipment from Halfax to London during the past ten years has been 338,684 barrels per season.

The total apple shipments from all ports for the week ending Dec. 16 were 17,941 barrels, including 4407 barrels from Boston, 3698 barrels from New York, 1649 barrels from Portland, Me., 1380 barrels from Halfax and 1697 barrels from St. John. The total shipments included 2076 barrels to Liverpool, 2140 barrels to London, 405 barrels to Glasgow, and 5370 barrels to various ports. The shipments for the season thus far have been 1,610,549 barrels, including 310,761 barrels from Boston, 454,694 barrels from New York, 100,104 barrels from Portland, Me., 555,007 barrels from Montreal, 182,388 barrels from Halfax and 7683 barrels from St. John, N.B. The total shipments for the same time last year were 1,453,719 barrels, against 2,440,173 barrels in 1903.

Poultry Market Fairly Steady.

Poultry intended for the Christmas market is arriving in moderate quantities, with no present indication that there will be any excess of supplies. Turkeys are not a very large proportion of the receipts, fowls and chickens composing a large part of the supplies. Dealers expect wholesale markets to rule around 30 cents for turkeys suitable for the Christmas trade.

Considerable stock was held over from Thanksgiving, and these are not of the best quality, as a rule, and do not compare well with the fresh receipts. They will tend to hold the market average down, but are hardly likely to cause a slump unless possibly among the lower grades of stock. In all probability the choice grades will not be in over supply. The Western packing concerns held over a good many cheap turkeys from Kentucky and for which they did not find a profitable market at Thanksgiving. These are of low grade and it looks as if their owners would have to sell them at a loss. Probably some of them will be held in cold storage and peddled out to the trade during the summer. There is little room for such stock in the Christmas market season.

The turkey situation in New York is very much like that of Boston in respect to the moderate supply of choice lots. Dealers expect to pay around 20 cents for anything that is high grade. A great deal of the Western stock of poultry of all kinds comes in poor condition. A continuance of the mild weather would work considerable injury to the shipments of cheap supplies from a distance. It would result in cheap poultry supplies for the masses, as such stuff would have to be sold or placed in cold storage at a loss. But so far as concerns shipments of fresh killed Northern and Middle Western turkeys of good quality the situation is favorable. There are large supplies of milk fed chickens from the West which seem to be in good demand. Broilers are less plenty now, the ordinary grade of chickens having become too mature and staggery for this class of trade. Squabs have been less plenty of late and the market is firmer. There is some demand for Guinea fowls around 75 cents a pair.

The Christmas holiday will occur next Monday, and in New York buyers having all the week in which to stock up are in a hurry to commence operations. A good many are around sipping up the situation, but show little disposition to buy in any quantity as yet, and the best selling days will probably be Wednesday and Thursday. Invoices of turkeys are heavy from Southern and Southwestern sections, while advices are somewhat larger from the West than had been expected. Holders are inclined to feel firmly and asking 10 cents for fancy Western young toms and mixed hens and toms, and up to 10 cents for selected young hens. Comparatively few nearby turkeys here, and as yet fancy up-river and Jerseys asked 21 to 22 cents, Maryland and Delaware up to 21 cents, sometimes a shade higher. Fancy roasting chickens in moderate proportion in the receipts, as many lots are beginning to run coarse and staggery, but general invoices of chickens are liberal, and average grades have an easier feeling. Fowls also show up heavily in the invoices, and some a trifle weaker. Ducks and geese fairly plenty, but choice to fancy grades, especially of ducks, will be in demand, and prices are higher and firm.

Good Trading in Christmas Groceries.

Christmas groups appear to be in light to moderate supply in Boston. The only surplus appears to be in holly, which is selling lower by the bin. Some lots hardly will bring freight. It is reported that a lot of twenty carloads arrived the middle of the week upon an already overstocked market. There is in moderate supply and likely to be all cleared up at from 10 cents to \$1 per bushel of four or five tons. A few large lots are on sale at \$1.50 to \$2.50. Laundry receipts bring \$1.75 to \$2.25 per dozen; laundry receipts bring \$1.50 to \$1.75 per dozen. Laundry receipts bring \$1.50 to \$1.75 per dozen and holly in large lots \$1.50 to \$2.

Receipts of Christmas groceries are not unusually heavy in New York, though a few arrivals are on hand. The stock is generally light, and many lots are hardly worth shipping. The New York market shows a fair supply of Christmas groceries, but the New York market is not unusually heavy in New York, though a few arrivals are on hand. The stock is generally light, and many lots are hardly worth shipping.

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